



PROPOSAL EVALUATION

IRWM Grant Program – Local Groundwater Assistance, FY 2012-2013

Applicant	Sierra Resource Conservation District	County	Fresno
Project Title	Community Groundwater Monitoring, Analysis, and Planning in Sierra Nevada Granitic Fractured Rock within a Non-Basin region, eastern Fresno Co.	Grant Request	\$ 141,675.00
		Total Project Cost	\$ 159,775.00

Project Description: The objective of the project is to use two school sites to monitor and track groundwater usage with seasonal and long term trends analyzed on a permanent basis. Data collected is used to better understand underlying geology, hydrological processes, and subsequent recharge capabilities with the goal of long-term sustainability of the area's key wells.

Evaluation Summary:

Scoring Criterion	Score
GWMP or Program	0
Technical Adequacy of Work to be Performed	5
Work Plan	8
Budget	3
Schedule	4
QA/QC	2
Past Performance	4
Geographical Balance	0
Total Score	26

- **GWMP or Program:** This section of the application is somewhat confusing. It seems to indicate that the Fresno Irrigation District Groundwater Management Plan that covers the project area, but it also indicates this area is outside of a basin and therefore isn't required to have a GWMP. In either case, it is clear that there is no documentation that the applicant organization has adopted a GWMP.
- **Technical Adequacy of Work to be Performed:** The criterion is fully addressed with thorough and well-presented documentation. The applicant provides a complete and detailed project description that includes goals of the proposal. The project location and area affected are described. The project itself will not provide new information, but it will allow for easier collection of current data being collected at existing monitoring wells. The data will allow for easier dissemination of information to various stakeholders. The District does not expect major costs for ongoing maintenance or operations of the equipment. Applicant demonstrates collaboration with the other local public agencies with regards to groundwater management in the area.
- **Work Plan:** The criterion is addressed but is not thoroughly documented. The Work Plan appears to be consistent with the schedule and budget. However, detail is lacking for some of the tasks, making it unclear what deliverables will be produced. The project does support the objectives of a Technical Memorandum submitted by the Fresno County Water Advisory Committee dated February 16, 2012. The Work Plan describes the establishment of a community outreach and education program involving four public meetings, four printed articles and information on a website. The Work Plan does not include any environmental compliance tasks. Since the monitoring well sites are already in existence, the proposed project may be exempt from CEQA; however, some comments to this effect should have been included in the Work Plan.
- **Budget:** The criterion is not fully addressed and documentation is incomplete or insufficient. The Budget is consistent with the work plan and schedule. However, explanatory text that supports the cost estimates is not included. It appears that the Material and Labor Costs Table is intended to support the Budget Table; however, the derivation of costs is still unclear. Other sources of funding are not identified in the Budget, but are designated as "In-Kind" in the Applicant Information section.



PROPOSAL EVALUATION

IRWM Grant Program – Local Groundwater Assistance, FY 2012-2013

- **Schedule:** The criterion is addressed but is not thoroughly documented. Schedule sequencing agrees with the Work Plan and the Budget. However, an explanation of how the schedule was derived is omitted. A number of tasks begin at the same time. An explanation would confirm the feasibility of this approach. Task durations appear realistic with the exception of Task 3. It is unlikely that this Task 3 will require 110 days to complete. Start and finish dates of the project are within the PSP time frame. It appears that the applicant will be ready to proceed when funding becomes available, as they already have a quote and work schedule with a consultant.
- **QA/QC:** The criterion is marginally addressed and documentation is incomplete and insufficient. The applicant does not provide a well-defined QA/QC plan or measures to assure the successful implementation of the project. It only provides a list of the project partners and discusses professional qualifications of the personnel who will be involved in the project.
- **Past Performance:** The criterion is fully addressed and documentation is incomplete or insufficient. The applicant describes one previous project, a community groundwater program for the unincorporated towns of Prather, Auberry, and Tollhouse, which focused on determining the groundwater conditions of a populated area within the Sierra Nevada foothill region of eastern Fresno County and was funded by a \$50,000 grant from DWR's Local Groundwater Assistance Program. The applicant also describes projects funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service to fund upgrades of two school water systems (installation of a replacement transducer for determining static wells levels and installation of flow meters), and states that all projects funded by DWR and other California Agencies have been successfully completed to budget. However, the applicant did not provide any copies of past performance evaluations or specific examples of how tasks were completed within the allotted time or within the budget.